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Minutes

Bureau of Pipefitters, Refrigeration Technicians, and Sprinkler Fitters: Framework Subcommittee

Division of Professional Licensure
1000 Washington Street
6th Floor Conference Room
Boston, MA 02118
March 13, 2019, 9:00 AM

1. Meeting called to order by the Chair at 9:13 AM, followed by roll call, the Chair asked that members identify themselves and whom they represent:

Bureau Members Present:

Daniel Kilburn, Chair
Frank Norton, Boston Refrigeration Contractors
Tim Gilligan, Pipefitters Local 537
David Norkiewicz, Shawsheen Valley Tech.
Richard Zaker, GCI & Greater Lawrence Tech.
Aidan Maquire, Boston Mechanical Services
Robert Recko, Quinsigamond Comm. College
Christopher Faucher, Bay Path RVT

Bureau Members Not Present:

Allan Berry, Refrigeration Technician Member
Thomas Belland, Blackstone Valley RVT
Timothy Curran, Phoenix Mechanical Contracting

2. Subcommittee Discussion

The Chair informed the members of the scope and objectives of the Subcommittee to develop a better working Refrigeration framework. The Chair added that these Refrigeration frameworks are directed towards the adult apprentice, not the vocational school student. A handout of the required Refrigeration regulatory study for the 6,000 work hours, 4,000 work hours, and 2,000 work hours apprentice models was distributed. The intent of the spacing beneath the categories is to develop an outline of training that fits within that category. Training outside the scope of the listed categories will be used for future regulatory revision. The Pipefitters Local 537 HVAC approved curriculum was distributed to members to assist with their review as well as the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education ("DESE") HVAC frameworks.

Based on the documentation provided and discussion amongst the members, the following training topics were recommended:



Refrigeration & A/C Systems

- Fundamentals of Refrigeration and Basic Refrigeration Cycles
- Components and Systems (Piping-Types and understanding joining methods, Ducting-Sizing and Pump and Fan Laws)
- Types of Systems including Roof Top and Heat Pumps
- Massachusetts General Law Chapter 146, and Title 528 of the Code of Massachusetts Regulations
- ASHRAE Code (15-Safety Standards for Refrigeration Systems, 34-Disignation and Safety Classification of Refrigerants)
- Troubleshooting Techniques
- Equipment Room Standards (ASHRAE 15)
- Refrigerants and Oils (Retrofitting, Compatibility, Flammability, Environmental Considerations)
- Charging, Evacuation, and Leak Detection
- Cooling Tower Theory and Bio Hazards
- Ammonia Use and Safety

Electrical Code

- Basic Electricity, Electrical Safety, Arc Flash Protection
- Massachusetts Electrical Code
- Meters and Tools
- Components, Relays, Solenoids, and Wiring
- Control Systems, Components, Wiring, Testing

Other Suggested Areas of Study Outside of the Requirements

- OSHA Safety Certification (OSHA 10 or OSHA 40)
- Hazardous, Flammable, and Combustible Materials Handling and Storage (OSHA Hazard Communication Standard)
- Lock Out / Tag Out (LOTO)
- Hot-work Requirements and Local Permit Requirements

The Chair informed the Subcommittee members that the training outlines for each of the Refrigeration apprentice models will be presented at the next scheduled Bureau meeting.

3. Matter not reasonably anticipated 48 hours in advance of the meeting

- No discussion on matters not reasonably anticipated 48 hours in advance of the meeting.

4. Meeting adjourned at 11:04 AM.

List of Documents/Exhibits Used at this Meeting

- a. Handout of the required Refrigeration regulatory study for the 6,000 work hours, 4,000 work hours, and 2,000 work hours apprentice models.
- b. Pipefitters Local 537 HVAC approved curriculum.
- c. Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education ("DESE") HVAC frameworks.